2nd March 1928]

A.—(*a*) *to* (*c*) No cotton spinning, either by hand or by power, was carried on in any of the jails during the years 1926 and 1927. As regards woollen yarn spun in jails the available information is furnished below :—

Jail.	Manufactured by power.		Manufactured by hand spinning.	
	1926.	1927.	1926.	1927.
	LB.	LB.	LB.	LB.
Vellore	Nil.	Nil.	2,095	2,755
Rajahmundry	Nil.	Nil.	10,912	22,917
Trichinopoly	Nil.	Nil.	49,659	35,618
Bellary	Nil.	5,889	36,648	30,870
Alipuram	Nil.	Nil.	17,397	19,288
	Nil.	5,889	116,711	111,448

Exemption of prisoners from working on fasting days.

* 1664 *Q.*—Mr. M. A. Manikkavelu Nayakar : Will the hon. the Home Member be pleased to state—

(*a*) whether prisoners in jails are made to work during festivals and fasting days also;

(*b*) whether the Mappilla prisoners are made to work during Ramzan and other fasting days ; and

(*c*) whether the Government will exempt the prisoners from work on fasting days ?

A.—(*a*) The hon. Member is referred to rule 389 of the Madras Jail Manual.

(*b*) Mappilla prisoners are not exempted from labour on fasting days other than the last day of the Ramzan.

(*c*) No.

Mr. M. A. Manikkavelu Nayakar :—" With reference to the answer to clauses (*b*) and (*c*) may I ask why ? "

The hon. Khan Bahadur Muhammad Usman Sahib Bahadur :—" I may say, Sir, that with regard to this matter the Inspector-General of Prisons has already issued the following instructions :—

'Superintendents are informed that care should be taken to see that those Muhammadan prisoners who have elected to fast during the Ramzan should be employed under the directions of the Medical Officer in a suitable manner and not given arduous forms of labour to perform.' "

Public Service

Alleged memorial from a non-gazetted officer.

* 1665 *Q.*—Syed Tajudin Sahib Bahadur : Will the hon. the Member for Revenue be pleased to state—

(*a*) whether he has recently received a memorial from a non-gazetted officer who was brought under the exchange system to the Revenue Secretariat in connexion with the Tanjore resettlement special work and was retained for five years from 1919 to 1923 ;